

Message Text

SECRET

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45

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 EUR-25 OMB-01 DODE-00 AID-20

OIC-04 PM-07 NSC-07 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3097

S E C R E T ANKARA 1772

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CENTO

SUBJ: POLITICAL GUIDANCE PAPER

REF: A. ANKARA 1654; B. ANKARA 1634; C. STATE 45443

BEGIN SUMMARY: POLITICAL WORKING GROUP MET AFTERNOON MARCH 7 TO DISCUSS SECRETARIAT'S DRAFT POLITICAL GUIDANCE PAPER (REF B). IRANIAN AND PAKISTANI REPS MADE PERSONAL JUDGEMENTS THAT THEIR GOVTS WOULD LIKE SECRETARIAT DRAFT. TURK SAID HIS MILITARY AUTHORITIES WERE REVIEWING PAPER. UK REP MADE ORGANIZATIONAL SUGGESTIONS AND IS TO PROVIDE REDRAFT. DRAWING ON REFS A AND C, WE POINTED OUT SOME OF THE PITFALLS INVOLVED BECAUSE OF THE PAPER'S ATTENTION TO POTENTIAL REGIONAL CONFLICTS AND SAID THAT EMPHASIS ON SOVIET MILITARY AND FOREIGN POLICIES HAD TO BE MAINTAINED IN THIS PAPER. END SUMMARY.

SECRETARIAT'S DRAFT POLITICAL GUIDANCE PAPER (REF B). IRANIAN LED OFF DISCUSSION BY SUGGESTING THAT PAPER SHOULD GIVE ADDED EMPHASIS TO THE INDIRECT APPROACH STRATEGY OF THE SOVIETS. HE SAID FLATLY THAT THE RECENT IRANIAN-IRAQI CLASHES WERE BROUGHT ABOUT AT SOVIET INSTIGATION. THE PAPER, HE ARGUED, SHOULD DEAL DIRECTLY WITH THIS PROBLEM. HIS PERSONAL OPINION WAS THAT THE SECRETARIAT DRAFT WOULD NEVERTHELESS COME FAIRLY CLOSE TO SATISFYING HIS GOVT.

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2. THE PAKISTANI REP PREDICTED THAT HIS GOVT WOULD BE VERY PLEASED WITH THE SECRETARIAT'S DRAFT.

3. THE UK REP SAID IN HIS OPINION HIS GOVT WOULD HAVE SOME PROBLEMS WITH THE PAPER. HE HIMSELF HAD BEEN PREPARING NOTES ON THE FIRST FOUR SECTIONS AND PROPOSED A MORE SYSTEMATIC REORDERING OF THE MAIN POINTS. HE THOUGHT SOME OF THE POINTS IN THE 1959 POLITICAL GUIDANCE DOCUMENT COULD BE INCORPORATED INTO THIS PAPER. AS HE OUTLINED HIS SUGGESTIONS FOR CHANGE, A GENERAL CONSENSUS DEVELOPED THAT HE SHOULD TRY HIS HAND AT A FORMAL REDRAFT (WHICH WILL BE CABLED TO DEPARTMENT WHEN WE RECEIVE IT NEXT WEEK).

4. THE TURKISH REP ALSO WAS UNHAPPY WITH SOME ELEMENTS OF THE FIRST FOUR SECTIONS AND HIS AND OUR COMMENTS HELPED DEVELOP GROWING CONSENSUS IN FAVOR OF A UK REDRAFT. TURK SAID HIS MILITARY AUTHORITIES WERE REVIEWING PAPER.

5. BECAUSE, IN OUR JUDGMENT, THE ATMOSPHERICS AT THE MEETING WERE AMENABLE TO FRANK SPEAKING, WE OUTLINED OUR VIEWS, DRAWING ON HELPFUL DEPARTMENT COMMENTS (REF C), PARTICULARLY STRESSING THE VIEW THAT THE GUIDANCE SHOULD BE AIMED AT SOVIET MILITARY AND FOREIGN POLICIES AND THE THREATS THEY POSED. WE REFERRED IN LOW-KEY FASHION TO THE PROBLEM OF THE MILITARY PLANNERS DEALING WITH POTENTIAL REGIONAL CONFLICTS: WE POINTED OUT THAT SUB-PARA 3(A) OF SECTION 5 DEALING WITH THE DIRECTIVES FOR MILITARY PLANNING IN EFFECT ASKS THE MILITARY PLANNERS TO DEAL WITH A SOVIET STRATEGY OF ENCOURAGING ANTI-REGIME ELEMENTS WITHIN RPT WITHIN IRAN. IRANIAN REP IN PARTICULAR APPRECIATED THAT THIS LATTER REFERENCE COULD BE ILLOGICAL. WE LEFT ALL REPS WITH FIRM IMPRESSION THAT USG WOULD HAVE CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTIES WITH SECTION 5 AS NOW DRAFTED.

6. COMMENT: WE PLAN TO WORK BEHIND THE SCENES WITH THE UK REP ON THIS GUIDANCE PAPER, TO THE DEGREE THAT WE CAN DO SO WITHOUT GIVING THE IMPRESSION OF GANGING UP ON THE IRANIANS AND PAKISTANIS. APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S HELPFUL INTERIM COMMENTS (REF C), SINCE WE BELIEVE IT WOULD HAVE BEEN TACTICAL ERROR TO HAVE REMAINED SILENT AT THIS MEETING.

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Message Attributes

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